

Message Text

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44

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 /039 W

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R 200410Z JAN 76

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2702

INFO AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMEMBASSY JISSA

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L B A G H D A D 0 0 6 1

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCLR, IZ

SUBJ: CIVAIR: SATURN AIRWAY CLEARANCE

REF: STATE 008532, BAGHDAD 050

1. PO RAISED QUESTION OF LANDING CLEARANCE FOR SUBJECT AIRCRAFT ON DEC 15 WITH OBRAHIM AL-WALI, DIRGEN OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS IN FORMIN. PO ALSO POINTED OUT TO WALI THAT RULES AGAINST OVER-FLIGHT OR LANDINGS BY U.S.-REGISTERED AIRCRAFT WERE INCONSISTENT WITH IRAQINQOLICY OF WELCOMING COMMERCIAL CONTACTS WITH U.S. COMNTQYNAND SUGGESTED IT MIGHT BE TIME FOR GOI TO TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT THESE RESTRICTIONS.

2. WALI ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THESE RESTRICTIONS COULD CREATE PROBLEMS FOR AMERICAN COMPANIES BUT SAID THIS WAS ONE OF THE COSTS OF DOING BUSINESS IN A COUNTRY WHERE WE DO NOT HAVE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. HE ALSO SAID WE SHOULD NOT FEEL THAT WE ARE ALONE IN THIS REGARD. SOVIET UNION ALSO HAD TROUBLE OBTAINING PERMISSION FOR THEIR NON-SCHEDULED AIRCRAFT TO LAND IN IRAQ, AND HE HAD RECENTLY INTERVENED WITH CIVIL AVIATION AT REQUEST OF SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO OBTAIN LANDING PERMISSION FOR SOVIET CHARTERED AIRCRAFT. WALI THEN LAUGHED AND SAID THAT PURSUANT TO IRAQ'S EVEN-HANDED POLICY HE COULD NOT DO LESS FOR ME. HE SUGGESTED THAT IRAQ'S POLICY ON U.S.-REGISTERED AIRCRAFT

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COULD BEST BE MODIFIED ON CASE-BY-CASE BASIS AND HE SAID HE

WOULD TRY TO BE HELPFUL.

3. IF WALI SUCCEEDS, CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITIES MAY RESPOND
DIRECTLY TO SATURN AIRLINES ORIGINAL REQUEST. PLEASE KEEP
USINT ADVISED OF ANY DEVELOPEMENTS.

WILEY

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Message Attributes

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